

(b) Amendments to the Claims

Kindly amend claim 1 as follows. A detailed listing of all the claims that are or were in the application is provided herewith.

1. (Currently Amended) A toner comprising toner particles having at least a binder resin and a colorant, wherein;

said binder resin in the toner contains at least

i) a vinyl resin formed of a vinyl resin having at least a carboxyl group and a vinyl resin having at least an epoxy group, and having a cross-linked structure formed by the reaction of the carboxyl group of the former with the epoxy group of the latter, and

ii) from 3 to 60% by weight of the binder resin of a copolymer having an aliphatic conjugated diene compound as a monomer component; and

said binder resin in the toner has a THF-insoluble matter in a content of from 0.1% by weight to 60% by weight, and the copolymer having an aliphatic conjugated diene compound as a monomer component is incorporated in an o-dichlorobenzene-soluble matter of the THF-insoluble matter.

2. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, which has an acid value of from 0.1 mg.KOH/g to 50 mg.KOH/g.

3. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, which has, in molecular weight distribution measured by gel permeation chromatography of tetrahydrofuran-soluble matter in the toner, a main peak in the region of molecular weight of from 4,000 to 30,000.

4. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, wherein in a chart obtained by gel permeation chromatography measurement the peak area in the region of molecular weight of 30,000 or less is in a proportion of from 60% to 100% with respect to the total peak area.

5. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, wherein said copolymer having an aliphatic conjugated diene compound as a monomer component is a polymer obtained by copolymerizing styrene or a styrene derivative with an aliphatic conjugated diene compound.

6. (Original) The toner according to claim 5, wherein said copolymer having an aliphatic conjugated diene compound as a monomer component is a polymer obtained by copolymerizing styrene or a styrene derivative with an aliphatic conjugated diene compound in a proportion of a styrene or styrene derivative/aliphatic conjugated diene compound = 65/35 to 98/2 in weight ratio.

7. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, which contains a wax in an amount of from 0.1 part by weight to 20 parts by weight based on 100 parts by weight of the binder resin.

8. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, which has, in the endothermic curve of the toner, measured with a differential scanning calorimeter a maximum peak in the region of from 70°C to 140°C.

9. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, where said colorant is a magnetic iron oxide.

10. (Original) The toner according to claim 9, wherein said magnetic iron oxide is contained in an amount of from 10 parts by weight to 200 parts by weight based on 100 parts by weight of the binder resin.